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ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

Report of proceedings had at the Redistricting
Committee for the Illinois House of Representatives held
virtually via Zoom videoconference on the 24th day of
April, A.D., 2021, commencing at the hour of 12:02 p.m.

CHAIRMAN:

REPRESENTATIVE JAY HOFFMAN:

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I N D E X

PAGE

PRESENTATION:

Ms. Allie McNamara.10
(Illinois House of Representatives Employee)

WITNESSES

Ms. Valerie Leonard.17
(Nonprofit Utopia)

Mr. Richard Prince. 23
(Citizen)

1 THE COURT: The House Redistricting Committee
2 Shall come to order. I am Representative Jay Hoffman.

3 I want to welcome our colleagues who have joined
4 us from the Democratic side of the aisle. I see that
5 the chair of the entire Redistricting Committee, Chair
6 Lisa Hernandez, has joined us. I also see
7 representative There Mah, and Representative Kelly
8 Burke.

9 From the Republican side, I see representative
10 Tom Bennett, Spokesperson Tim Butler, as well as
11 Representative Avery Bourne.

12 Tim, am I missing anybody?

13 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: I think that's it for
14 our side.

15 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Okay. So what I'd like
16 to do is I would like to read a brief opening statement,
17 and then what we intend to do is have any representative
18 who wants to make a statement, Republicans or Democrats,
19 then we will go to a brief presentation from our staff
20 regarding the redistricting process, then we'll go to
21 witnesses, and then we'll go to questions from the
22 members.

23 So I'd like to thank everyone who has chosen to
24 participate in today's hearing. Your insight and

1 participation is as important as ever as we begin the
2 redistricting process under unprecedented circumstances.

3 The United States and the Illinois constitution
4 require the General Assembly to redraw political
5 boundaries every 10 years to account for population
6 shifts. These hearing are a part of the process. The
7 House Democrats are dedicated to transparency and public
8 participation in this redistricting process.

9 While state law requires a minimum of four
10 public hearings throughout the state, our Committee has
11 held far more, and I believe there are additional
12 committee hearings that have been scheduled.

13 Also, there are additional avenues for public
14 participation. Our goal is to hear from as many people
15 as possible, to gain as much information as possible
16 about the diverse communities in our state. Staff has
17 been making hundreds of phone calls to encourage
18 participation in these upcoming hearings. Those who
19 wish to participate should be given an opportunity.

20 We are holding a series of virtual and in-person
21 hearings through the state. Many have already been
22 held. I believe 24, 25 have been held. We announced a
23 schedule of initial 23 hearings, and I believe that
24 several more have been added. For comparison, in 2011,

1 the House Redistricting Committee held a total of 17
2 hearings.

3 While we're guided in this endeavor by the
4 United States constitution, the Federal Voting Rights
5 Act, the Illinois constitution, and the Illinois Voting
6 Rights Act, we are also interested in any relevant
7 demographic information, such as social, political,
8 economic, religious, or any other characteristics that
9 are unique to your community.

10 We want to hear specific views from you on any
11 social, political, economic, or religious interest
12 commonly held in the community, any specific interest
13 groups that exist, any concerns you may have regarding
14 the current boundaries, or alternatively what works well
15 among the -- about the current boundaries, and any
16 suggestions for the drawing of new boundaries. In
17 short, we want to hear any testimony that is relevant to
18 the drawing of our new political boundaries.

19 This year for the first time, Illinois residents
20 will be able to participate in the process from the
21 comfort of their own home. This includes through remote
22 participation in hearings such as this and by drawing
23 your own maps via a website. The public -- the Public
24 Drawing Portal is available at

1 ILHouse.com/Redistricting. That's
2 ILHouse.com/Redistricting. It allows any resident to
3 draw districts and share these maps with the Committee
4 for consideration.

5 The public may also submit written testimony or
6 any other comments to the Committee via email and that
7 can be done at RedistrictingCommittee@HDS.ILGA.Gov.
8 That's the redistricting committee area that is located
9 at HDS.ILGA.Gov.

10 All written testimony submitted to the Committee
11 will be made public -- publicly available at Illinois --
12 ILGA.GOV and at the ILHouseDems.com/Redistricting.
13 That's ILHouseDems.com/Redistricting. Transcripts of
14 the Committee hearings will also be uploaded to those
15 sites.

16 As for today, we will, once again, have a short
17 slide show, and we will follow that brief presentation.
18 We have witnesses we will then hear from and then any
19 questions of the members.

20 If you have written testimony prepared, we would
21 ask that you submit that testimony to us and just
22 briefly summarize it in your oral presentation.

23 I will now recognize Minority Spokesperson Tim
24 Butler.

1 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Thank you, Leader
2 Hoffman.

3 It's good to be here today for a hearing in
4 eastern Illinois, a place in the state that has a big
5 part of my heart since I went to school at EIU. So I
6 have a great admiration for the eastern part of the
7 state, and an area that has been, especially on the
8 Congressional on the congressional level has been
9 gerrymandered greatly over the years. When you look at
10 the current map, it's quite astounding, and the
11 previously map was quite astounding as well.

12 My name is Tim Butler. I'm a state
13 representative from the 87th District. I live in
14 Springfield. I represent a district right smack-dab in
15 the middle of the state. I'm coming to you today from
16 my State Senator's office, Sally Turner, in Lincoln,
17 Illinois because we had a few events here today in Logan
18 County where Lincoln is at. It's another county in our
19 state of 30,000 people that's been gerrymandered back
20 and forth over the years, especially on the legislative
21 level as well.

22 Leader, I did -- I asked a question yesterday as
23 we ended the session. You were in the chair about
24 Speaker Welsh has said that the use of the ACS data for

1 drawing the maps will be combined with other data
2 sources, and I'm just wondering -- I've asked the
3 question multiple times if we've got an answer yet on
4 what data will be used to draw the legislative maps.

5 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: And so it is my
6 understanding that the purposes of those -- of these
7 hearings are to help determine some of that information,
8 and when we have that determination, we will share it
9 with you.

10 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: What other sources would
11 be used? I know you've talked about relevant
12 demographic data when we opened these hearings, but what
13 other data sets would be used other than official data
14 from the Census Bureau?

15 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: I'll have to ask the
16 staff and get back with you on that.

17 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Okay. We've asked that
18 question a lot, and per the speaker's -- the quote from
19 the speaker's office that I referenced yesterday that
20 was in -- the quote was that that data would be
21 available to the Committee.

22 As members of the Committee, obviously we don't
23 have access to that data, what is going to be used. And
24 that is a huge point of contention, I would say, right

1 now as we move forward with this process, as we -- as we
2 get closer and closer to the June 30th deadline that you
3 referenced earlier.

4 So I would appreciate a response. I understand
5 that these hearings might have some impact on that, but
6 certainly would appreciate a response to it.

7 And let me just say this: I, you know -- I
8 appreciate the fact that we've added hearings,
9 especially for areas of the state that didn't have
10 hearings earlier, including eastern Illinois. We've got
11 one for the Kankakee area this afternoon that I'm
12 appreciative of as well.

13 So just look forward to the witnesses and
14 hopefully we'll have some good input today.

15 Thank you, Leader Hoffman.

16 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Thank you. Is there
17 any further comment by any of the members at this time?

18 Representative Bennett.

19 REPRESENTATIVE BENNETT: Thank you,
20 Representative Hoffman.

21 Good afternoon, and I'm looking forward to this
22 conversation today also. If you look at the screen,
23 there's another individual next to me. His name is John
24 Shure. He's the county board chairman of Iroquois

1 County, and he also has an interest just to listen to
2 what's going on and how things are going. He has --
3 we've had some conversations about what this might look
4 like, so he's interested just to hear what's going on.
5 We appreciate that.

6 I'm looking forward to the conversation here as
7 well, and I appreciate having the meeting today. Thank
8 you.

9 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Thank you.

10 REPRESENTATIVE BENNETT: Thank you.

11 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Anyone further?

12 Okay. So we will now move to staff who will
13 provide a short presentation regarding the redistricting
14 process.

15 Allie, are you ready?

16 STAFF MEMBER McNAMARA: Yes. Ready to go. Let
17 me share my screen. All right.

18 Good afternoon, everybody. My name is Allie
19 McNamara. That's A-l-l-i-e M-c-N-a-m-a-r-a. I'm an
20 employee with the Illinois Houses of Representatives,
21 and I'm here to give a brief overview of the state's
22 redistricting procedure.

23 I'll briefly discuss the background of
24 redistricting and the redistricting process here in

1 Illinois. I will also be going over federal and state
2 guideline redistricting -- and state redistricting
3 requirements and guidelines. Finally, we will be
4 looking at what preliminary data reveals about
5 population trends in the state.

6 Redistricting is the process that ensures all
7 Illinois residents are afforded equal representation in
8 the State Legislature and Federal Congress as guaranteed
9 by the U.S. Constitution.

10 The U.S. Supreme Court held a series of rulings
11 in the 1960s that Congressional and state legislative
12 districts in each state must be of approximately equal
13 population, establishing the principle of one person,
14 one vote. As a result, state's redraw their
15 Congressional and state districts every 10 years to
16 reflect changes in population.

17 The timeline for redrawing the legislative map
18 is based on the Illinois constitution. The constitution
19 gives the Illinois Legislature the initial
20 responsibility of passing the new legislative map. Both
21 the State House and the State Senate must pass a plan
22 which then must be signed by the governor.

23 If a new map does not go into affect by the
24 constitutional deadline of June 30th, responsibility for

1 creating a new map passes from the legislature to a
2 legislative redistricting commission. The commission
3 would consist of eight members with two each appointed
4 by the legislative leaders and no more than four by the
5 same political party. A majority vote of five or more
6 commission members will constitute final approval of a
7 new map.

8 However, if the commission does not agree to a
9 map by September 1st, the Illinois Supreme Court will
10 submit two names, one from each party, to the Illinois
11 Secretary of State who will then choose one name at
12 random to serve as the ninth member. Five of the nine
13 members of the commission must agree to a plan no later
14 than October 5th.

15 In order to understand the process of creating
16 new districts, we must look at some legal guiding
17 principles.

18 First among these is equal population.
19 Congressional districts must be nearly equal in
20 population, while state districts must be substantially
21 equal in population.

22 Federal and state law also requires that all
23 districts be contiguous, which means that all parts of a
24 district must be next to each other unless connected by

1 water. Annexations and unincorporated areas and
2 municipalities and counties sometimes mean that
3 communities are discontinuous. However, Congressional
4 and state districts must be adjacent or connected at all
5 points.

6 A more difficult requirement to define is
7 compactness. There are at least 30 different scientific
8 ways to measure how compact a district is, but no
9 statute or court precedent identifies standard criteria
10 of compactness.

11 In theory, compactness focuses on the shape of a
12 district's boundaries, how spread out a district is from
13 a central core, or where the district's population
14 center of gravity is. In practice, compactness is
15 hindered by geography and on-the-ground realities, so
16 often the interpretation of compactness involves more
17 than a visual test.

18 Illinois is one of 14 states that nests its
19 House Districts -- also called representative districts
20 -- inside one of its Senate Districts -- also called
21 legislative districts. Mapmakers will also look where
22 possible to follow existing political and geographical
23 boundaries in ways that maximize a community's
24 opportunity to have its interests represented.

1 As you know, however, county and municipality,
2 township, and natural geographic boundaries are not
3 always compact or contiguous. By studying population
4 data and holding hearings like this one to listen to the
5 thoughts of residents across the State, lawmakers look
6 to identify what are known as communities of interest.

7 A community of interest is a group of a people
8 concentrated in a geographic area where socially,
9 culturally, ethnically, economically, religiously or
10 otherwise alike can be joined in a district to most
11 effectively heard their voices heard. The factors
12 contributing to any particular community of interest
13 will vary throughout the state.

14 Federal law requires redistricting plans to
15 respect minority representation. The principles of the
16 Federal Voting Rights Act are in place to prevent the
17 reduction of opportunities for minority populations to
18 participate equally in the electoral process. However,
19 districts cannot be drawn solely on the basis of race.

20 Illinois law also protects representation of
21 racial and language minority groups. The Illinois
22 Voting Rights Act helps to prevent minority fracturing
23 or dividing a concentration of minorities among two or
24 more districts by requiring mapmakers to consider

1 creating crossover districts, coalition districts, or
2 influence districts.

3 A crossover district is one in which large
4 minority groups may elect the candidate of its choice
5 with help from voters of the majority group.

6 A coalition district brings multiple racial or
7 language minority groups together to elect a candidate
8 of their choice.

9 An influence district allows a group to
10 influence an election outcome without being the majority
11 population in a district.

12 These state laws come into play only after
13 compliance with federal law and U.S. and state
14 constitutional requirements on redistricting.

15 In addition, the law ensures transparency and
16 public participation by requiring public hearings across
17 the state, one of which we're having right now. At the
18 end of the presentation, we will display an email
19 address on the screen that Representative Hoffman has
20 already provided where you can submit your ideas today.
21 The Committee is also accepting written testimony today.

22 Now that we've covered the redistricting
23 process, let's discuss what data shows about Illinois
24 population. The U.S. Census Bureau has delayed the

1 release of much of the decennial census data by more
2 than six months until this fall. However, the U.S.
3 Census Bureau's annual population estimates show some
4 trends that can help inform the work ahead.

5 The census 2019 population estimate shows an
6 overall decline in state population over the past
7 decade. There are, however, areas that predict to have
8 population gains. Communities with the largest
9 population by percentage increase since 2010 are
10 Kendall, Monroe, Champaign, and Kane Counties.

11 Demographically speaking, the state's white
12 population is projected to decline, while
13 African-American population statewide will likely see a
14 smaller overall decline. The Hispanic and Asian
15 populations across Illinois are projecting to see
16 growth.

17 Thank you very much for your attention and for
18 coming out to share you thoughts today. As the Chair
19 mentioned, you'll be able to find testimony from this
20 and other hearings on ILGA.Gov and on
21 ILHouseDems.com/Redistricting.

22 The redistricting website offers additional ways
23 to engage with the process, including our public drawing
24 portal where you can submit -- draw and submit your own

1 district maps. You can send further written testimony
2 and suggestions to the Committee anytime by emailing
3 RedistrictingCommittee@HDS.ILGA.Gov. Thank you.

4 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Thank you very much,
5 Allie.

6 We will not move to witnesses who have indicated
7 that they would like to testify. We'll start with the
8 witnesses providing the testimony, and then we'll go to
9 questions after the testimony.

10 I have -- and I see on the screen -- I see
11 Ms. Valerie Leonard. If you would like to proceed,
12 please proceed.

13 MS. LEONARD: All right. Great. Thank you so
14 much. Is it possible for me to share my screen? Do I
15 still have permission? After last week you might not
16 want to see my screen.

17 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Yeah.

18 MS. LEONARD: Okay. Yeah. I can do it.

19 All right. And as I promised last week if given
20 another opportunity, I would not take quite as much
21 time, but I do think that there are some things that are
22 worth revisiting and responding to. I'll make sure that
23 you guys have a copy of this.

24 And, again, we want to say thank you to

1 everyone, staff as well as the Representatives, for
2 accommodating me this morning. And, again, we want to
3 say thank you for honoring our request to hold hearings
4 on the south side.

5 As you know, I'm from North Lawndale. That's my
6 community of interest, and I do realize we're not
7 focusing on North Lawndale here today. But I just
8 wanted to share with you some of the boundaries. I'm in
9 the 9th District Legislatively, and that's the 5th
10 Senate district.

11 As I indicated before, the African-American
12 population is declining, and we get those data from ACS.
13 We've had significant declines. We went from 53 percent
14 black to 46.9 black, for a percentage change of 6.10
15 points, and actually that's an 11.5 percentage
16 reduction. And we have the same dynamic going on. And
17 as I indicated, that is a cause for concern for me. Not
18 so much that other groups are growing, but our
19 population is declining.

20 And one of the things that really bothers me --
21 you know, we're talking about gerrymandering, but we're
22 not necessarily talking about prison gerrymandering,
23 which has a huge impact not only on my community -- you
24 know, I think my community is more impacted than any

1 community in the state. However, it impacts Cook
2 County. It impacts the state as well.

3 Cook County, just looking at the impacts of
4 gerrymandering, we make up about 44 percent of all of
5 the prisoners as of the time when we were -- when the
6 census was taken, and 73 percent of that population was
7 black.

8 And that really amounts to us losing -- for the
9 black community -- in Cook County alone \$43.7 million,
10 and it also impacts the way our districts are
11 represented because we use the census data, and the
12 census data includes prisoners, not in their hometowns,
13 but where they are imprisoned at the time. So for the
14 black community in Cook County alone, this translates
15 into \$437 million over the next 10 years.

16 And there was a problem with this map, I was
17 told, because this map does not reflect the current
18 boundaries, and, you know, I'll accept that. But
19 nonetheless, when we look here, we can see the
20 distribution of all of the prison facilities around the
21 state of Illinois.

22 So as of September 30th, 2020, there were 30,000
23 prisoners in Illinois, and 136 -- and I'm sorry, 135.6
24 million from census driven funding is diverted from

1 Illinois communities around the state every year. This
2 translates into about \$1.3 billion between now and the
3 next census. And of this amount, 750 million over the
4 next 10 years is diverted from black communities.

5 And as I indicated before, my district, District
6 5, is bearing the brunt of this. 6 of the 10 ZIP codes
7 with the highest number of returning prisoners come back
8 to my district.

9 And then there was a question or discussion last
10 week that indicated that we need to keep gerrymandering
11 in place. And forgive me if I'm misconstruing what was
12 said. It's not done intentionally, but this is my
13 understanding. But the rationale for prison
14 gerrymandering and making sure that the funds are
15 counted -- and distributed in those prison towns is to
16 make sure that there's money to cover the maintenance of
17 those prisons.

18 And as I indicated in that conversation, you
19 know, there -- not all of the money that comes from the
20 census calculations is for prisons. But then I did
21 further research between then and now and I found that
22 there are 318 federal programs that are driven by the
23 census, and not one -- I repeat, not one -- goes to
24 prison funding. The prisons are funded by the Bureau of

1 Prisons and the Department of Justice.

2 So our ask is, again, to hold a hearing on
3 Chicago south side. I understand that that might be in
4 the works, but we haven't seen it -- at least I haven't
5 seen it yet.

6 To the extent possible, keep the North Lawndale
7 community together.

8 As I indicated time and time again, end prison
9 gerrymandering. I know that there was a law passed to
10 end it effective 2025, but that has the same effect as
11 not ending it until 10 years from now. And quite
12 frankly, my community can't wait. This money goes to
13 build communities for the most part.

14 We need to build -- I'm sorry, draw as many
15 majority black legislative districts as the data will
16 allow. And suggestions as to ways that can be done --
17 you know, looking at the Voting Rights Act, I understand
18 that the effective districts for black communities, they
19 can be drawn with 55 percent black majorities. Given
20 the voting patterns in Chicago and some of the
21 surrounding suburbs, we probably can get away with 51
22 percent for an effective black majority.

23 We also would ask you to consider drawing black
24 districts with 5 percent or 10 percent variance in

1 population, so drawing districts with smaller
2 populations, you know, 95 percent or 90 percent of what
3 you're recommended -- equal population would be.

4 And then we're also recommending that you
5 utilize the 2010 census as a baseline for drawing the
6 districts. That would take into account -- you know,
7 you use 2010 as the baseline, and then you also take
8 into account the inferences that you can make from the
9 ACS.

10 So the ACS data, we realize that is not as
11 accurate as the census data, but we also realize too
12 that we won't have those data until September. And in
13 the meantime, the only thing that we have that is
14 complete is 2010.

15 We also understand too that there were
16 significant challenges in collecting ACS data as well as
17 the census data. So I recommend that you work with
18 people who really understand where the bodies are buried
19 and how to use 2010 as a baseline, and then take into
20 account changes over time and make inferences based on
21 ACS data.

22 All right. So I think that was a little shorter
23 than last time.

24 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Thank you, Ms. Leonard.

1 We appreciate it. And could you provide our staff, if
2 you haven't already, with the presentation? I believe
3 you can do that by going to -- by email, and you can
4 send that to the RedistrictingCommittee@HDS.ILGA.Gov.

5 MS. LEONARD: Yes, sir.

6 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Okay.

7 We'll go now to -- and we will take questions
8 after we finish the witnesses. Okay? If you could hang
9 on, I'd appreciate it.

10 I will now go to Mr. Richard Prince.

11 Mr. Prince. You need to unmute, Mr. Prince.

12 There you go. Please proceed.

13 MR. PRINCE: I'd like to thank you all for
14 giving me the opportunity to speak and basically to vent
15 because I've been upset with the redistricting process
16 forever.

17 I've lived my whole life -- many years -- in the
18 metropolitan Chicago area, and I'm -- and I think the
19 process of redistricting in this state is broken. It
20 has to be changed. I know we can't do this, but it
21 would be nice if that could happen.

22 In the meantime, I will not have any specific
23 questions -- specific items, but I would like to mention
24 several things.

1 One, I understand that over 90 percent of
2 incumbents get reelected, and mostly -- and more than
3 half of them run unopposed. I would like to be able to
4 go into the voting booth and have a choice. My only
5 choice right now is to vote for the one candidate or not
6 vote at all.

7 I think the redistricting process -- I heard
8 what staff said about what the laws are, and that would
9 be wonderful if they were followed. The gerrymandering
10 is drawn in such a way that all the legislators, on a
11 bipartisan basis, protect their careers.

12 I think this is a very unfair system. I think
13 the districts are drawn in such a way so that you
14 congregate a group so that their votes cannot be spread
15 apart and maybe endanger the reelection of incumbents.

16 Those are my general comments, and I thank you,
17 again, for letting me vent. But until we have a new
18 process for how we redistrict, this is a broken system.
19 And until the state legislators decide to draw regular
20 shaped boundaries and not be focused primarily on
21 getting reelected but focus on giving voters a choice as
22 opposed to -- we don't get to choose you the way things
23 are done now. You choose us. That is not fair. It is
24 undemocratic. Thank you.

1 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Thank you, Mr. Prince.

2 Representative Bennett, would the chairman like
3 to say a few words? I think he hit the mute again.

4 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: You're on mute, Bennett.

5 REPRESENTATIVE BENNETT: Thank you.

6 Representative -- Leader Hoffman, thank you very much.

7 John is busy taking notes, and he's just trying
8 to take it all in right now. He does thank you, but
9 he'll pass for now. Thank you so much for the offer.

10 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Okay. Thank you.

11 I don't -- I don't see any further witnesses for
12 this hearing.

13 So at this point, Representative Butler,
14 questions of any of the questions?

15 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Thank you, Leader
16 Hoffman. I truly appreciate it.

17 Mr. Prince, thank you for your words and thank
18 you for joining us. Where -- I missed it -- where do
19 you live? Sorry.

20 MR. PRINCE: I live near north side of Chicago.

21 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Gotcha. Okay.

22 I couldn't agree with your sentiments more, and
23 it's an issue -- it's something that we've talked about
24 a lot in these 25, 26, 27 hearings that we've had -- at

1 least from our side -- the fact that the system does
2 allow the politicians to pick the people instead of the
3 other way around. It's something that, you know, we
4 hope we can fix. I was hopeful we'd fix it this year.
5 It doesn't seem like that's going to be the case, but
6 it's definitely a priority for a lot of it us.

7 I appreciate your frustration, and I appreciate
8 your words on it because I think it is something we do
9 need to change. I hope we see it changed in the near
10 future. So thank you for being on today, and thank you
11 for your testimony.

12 I did have a couple of questions, again, for
13 Ms. Leonard. Thank you for being back here again today.
14 So the demographics that you put up were from the 5th
15 Senate District, which you live in, I believe?

16 MS. LEONARD: Yes.

17 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: And you mentioned that
18 those demographics are based off of American Community
19 Survey data; is that correct?

20 MS. LEONARD: ACS as well as the last census
21 because there was a comparison showing the percentage
22 change from the last census.

23 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Okay. Do you know how
24 many ACS surveys have gone out to the 5th Senate

1 District?

2 MS. LEONARD: I have no idea.

3 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Okay. So statewide
4 there's about a quarter of million ACS surveys that go
5 out. So obviously when that gets divided into 59 Senate
6 districts, 118 House districts, it doesn't seem that it
7 might be a whole lot for a state of 13 million people.

8 MS. LEONARD: Right.

9 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: So do you -- do you also
10 know how many current -- I know you showed some figures,
11 I think, there from your ZIP code about current
12 incarcerated individuals --

13 MS. LEONARD: Do you need me to share my screen
14 and you can --

15 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: No. Just -- I mean, was
16 it like 1,600 or 1,500 or something like that, is that
17 correct, from your ZIP code?

18 MS. LEONARD: From five ZIP codes, there was
19 over 5,000 -- 5,300 for the Senate district.

20 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Gotcha. And are those
21 all -- those ZIP codes, are those -- are those around
22 your area, around the Lawndale area and things like
23 that?

24 MS. LEONARD: It's -- yeah, Lawndale, East and

1 West Garfield, Austin, and even Near West Side.

2 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Okay. I got you. And
3 do you know when released, are there any statistics that
4 show how many formally incarcerated individuals end up
5 going back to the home address that is listed with the
6 Department of Corrections?

7 MS. LEONARD: A report that I read back in 2003
8 indicated that they tend to go to 6 ZIP codes, and then
9 the data that I shared showed you 10 -- well, 11 of the
10 top ZIP codes where they return.

11 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Where they returned or
12 where -- is that their current address listed or is that
13 where they return to?

14 MS. LEONARD: That's where they return, and the
15 interference being they usually go back where they came
16 from.

17 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Okay. They usually do.
18 And so I'll give you, by way of example -- I had a
19 formally incarcerated individual -- he had been
20 incarcerated several times -- who broke into my home.
21 He was arrested after that. And when you look back at
22 the records, he went -- he's gone back to LaSalle. He's
23 gone back to Peoria. He's ended up in Springfield.

24 So I guess my point is -- and I'd love to get

1 this data as well. I know -- I appreciate Leader
2 Hoffman saying if you could forward it on to staff. I'd
3 love to take a further look at it --

4 MS. LEONARD: Okay.

5 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: -- because I think that's
6 a question of -- you know, I'd really like to dig deeper
7 into people if people who do have an address listed with
8 DOC do actually return back to their home addresses.

9 And the last thing I just wanted to ask you:
10 You mentioned drawing -- and I appreciate your -- your
11 -- you did mention concerns about ACS data not being
12 accurate, and that was something we talked about. I
13 don't know if it's not being accurate. It's just we
14 don't believe it present --

15 MS. LEONARD: Right. Right.

16 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: But you had mentioned
17 drawing the current maps with ACS and 2010 -- basing off
18 of 2010 census data.

19 MS. LEONARD: Uh-huh.

20 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Do you know if we base
21 the current maps off of ACS data how many individuals
22 would have been released from DOC since the 2010 census
23 data? I have no idea how many people are released
24 annually from DOC.

1 MS. LEONARD: I would have to get those numbers
2 for you. I can -- I can get them for you.

3 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Okay. I think that
4 would be an interesting fact to see as well.

5 MS. LEONARD: Uh-huh.

6 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Leader Hoffman, that's
7 all of the questions I have. I appreciate your
8 indulgence.

9 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Yes. Mr. Prince?

10 MR. PRINCE: I would just like - am I muted
11 still?

12 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: No. You're fine. We
13 can hear you.

14 MR. PRINCE: One thing I would urge you is when
15 you finally redraw the map that there be an opportunity
16 and a time frame for people to comment on it. I think
17 it would help you and my perception of you if there was
18 transparency and opportunity to question the map and see
19 it. Thank you.

20 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Mr. Prince, I wish you
21 were my constituent. I agree with you 100 percent, my
22 friend. I really do. And you're spot on. It's another
23 thing that we've asked about as well, is once the maps
24 are revealed, we think there needs to be significant

1 time for the public to weigh in on it. So I appreciate
2 your thoughts on that.

3 And Mr. -- Leader Hoffman, I noticed our friend
4 Representative Severin has joined us with his Cardinals
5 hat, so maybe the folks --

6 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: I like that. I like
7 that.

8 Let me just check here. Any further questions
9 for the witnesses?

10 Representative Bennett, would you have anything
11 further to add?

12 REPRESENTATIVE BENNETT: Not at this time, but I
13 do appreciate the conversation and the continual
14 questions and thoughts about ACS data and the kind of
15 data we're using. That's an important part of where
16 we're going, and, again, I appreciate the conversations
17 from all of the witnesses today as well.

18 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Thank you, Ms. Leonard.

19 Thank you, Mr. Prince, for being with us.

20 I see no further individuals that are seeking
21 recognition. Therefore, the House Redistricting
22 Committee shall stand at ease to the call of the chair.
23 Thank you. Everybody have a good weekend.

24 (12:42 p.m., hearing concluded.)

1 STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS.
 2 COUNTY OF COOK)

3

4

CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

5

Isaiah Roberts, being first duly sworn, on

6

oath says that he is a Certified Shorthand Reporter,

7

Registered Professional Reporter doing business in the

8

City of Chicago, County of Cook and the State of

9

Illinois;

10

That he reported in shorthand the proceedings

11

had at the foregoing Redistricting Committee Meeting,

12

except where otherwise stated;

13

And that the foregoing is a true and correct

14

transcript of his shorthand notes so taken as aforesaid

15

and contains all the proceedings had at the said

16

Redistricting Committee Meeting.

17

18

19

Isaiah Roberts, CSR, RPR
Illinois CSR #084-004890

20

21

SUBSTRIBED AND SWORN TO
before me this 14th day of
April A.D., 2021.

22

23

24

NOTARY PUBLIC

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